

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL NAHA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO CINCPAC HI

COGARD

GOVGUAM

TREASURY

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: AUGUST 20 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. THAILAND

KUKRIT PRAMOJ'S HOME LOOTED BY CROWD, INCLUDING OFF-DUTY POLICEMEN, ANGRY BECAUSE OF RTG CONCESSIONS TO STUDENT DEMONSTRATORS (WSJ); SEVERAL INJURED IN GUNFIRE EXCHANGE. CROWD SMASHED FURNITURE, WINDOWS, TOOK PREMIER'S LIQUOR, CIGARS; ONLY ABOUT 50 BELIEVED INVOLVED IN RANSACKTNG HOUSE (REUTER, SUN), FROM ABOUT 2000 WHO MARCHED ON RESIDENCE (CHITRIB); KUKRIT WAS AT POLICE STATION HALF MILE AWAY TALKING WITH REPS OF DEMONSTRATORS (GLOBE, WP).

NYT (BANGKOK) DISPATCH SAYS OUTBURST BELIEVED FIRST POLICE MUTINY IN THAI HISTORY, AND OBSERVERS SEE IT AS UNCLASSIFIED

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ANOTHER SIGN OF GROWING THAI POLARIZATION BETWEEN LEFTIST-RIGHT WING PRESSURE GROUPS. THERE IS CONCERN THAT IF SITUATION NOT BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL QUICKLY, 6-MONTH THAI EXPERIMENT IN PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY COULD

END IN CHAOS AND WAY OPENED FOR MIL RULE RETURN.

IN NORTHERN THAILAND, MOB ESTIMATED ABOUT 10,000 SEIZED
PROVINCE HQS, THREATENED CALLING NATIONWIDE POLICE

STRIKE IF THEIR DEMANDS NOT MET (UPI, NYDN; CHITRIB).

2. INDOCHINA

IN SEPARATE SPEECHES MONDAY TO 40,000 AT VFW CONVENTION,
REAGAN, WALLACE CHARGED WEAK WILLS IN WASHINGTON LOST
VN, NOT US MIL FORCES. CALIFORNIAN LABELED WITHDRAWAL
FROM VN MORE SHAMEFUL "THAN ANY SINGLE EVENT IN OUR
NATION'S HISTORY"; ALA GOV MAINTAINED US SHOULD HAVE
CONSIDERED INVADING NVN, CARRYING WAR TO THEM,
BOMBING HAIPHONG OR HANOI -- "OR WHATEVER WAS NECESSARY"
(UPI, WSTAR 8/19).

FRENCH BISHOP, EXPELLED FROM SAIGON FRIDAY AFTER 38
YEARS IN VN, SAYS "VIETNAMIZATION" OF RC CHURCH NOW
UNDERWAY; ADDS THAT NOT ONE FOREIGNER NOW IN KONTUM
(REUTER, NYT).

INS WITHDRAWS THREAT TO FINE FLYING TIGER LINE 99,000 DOLS
FOR BRINGING 99 VIET REFUGEES TO US 3 DAYS BEFORE
PRES OFFICIALLY ORDERED MASS EVACUATION FROM SAIGON
(AP, PHINQ; UPI, NYDN).

SPONSORS HAVE BEEN FOUND FOR 174 VIET REFUGEES WHO CAME
TO MAINE, ACCORDING SPOKESMAN FOR STATE ECON
OPPORTUNITY OFFICE (UPI, NYT).

3. JAPAN

MARSHALL VASILEVSKY, FORMER CMDR SOVIET FORCES IN FE,
SAID IN PRAVDA INTERVIEW TUESDAY SOVIET ENTRY INTO
WAR, NOT US A-BOMBS, FORCED JAPAN SURRENDER IN AUG 1945.
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ALSO SAID ALLIES "ATTACHED IMMENSE IMPORTANCE" TO
SOVIET MILITARY CONTRIBUTION IN FE (AFP, WP).

JAMESON (LAT 8/16) SAYS PSYCHOLOGICAL TOLL OF WAR
EXPOSED AGAIN FRIDAY AS JAPAN COMMENORATED 30TH
ANNIVERSARY OF ITS END. EMPEROR, MIKI, OTHERS
OFFERED PRAYERS FOR SOULS OF WAR DEAD, CONDOLENCES
TO SURVIVORS IN CEREMONY AT BUDOKAN; BUT FEW OUTSIDE
HEEDED GOJ PLEA TO STOP ACTIVITY AND JOIN IN SILENT
PRAYER -- MOST CONTINUED WATCHING NATL HS BASEBALL
TOURNAMENT ON TV, WHICH CONTINUED UNINTERRUPTED.

JAMESON (8/19) NOTES JAL OFFICIAL QUALIFIED STATEMENT

TO FOREIGN PRESS THAT AIRLINE WOULD REFUSE FLY
TERRORISTS TO SAFE HAVEN AGAIN -- "ONCE YOU ARE FACED
WITH A GUN WHAT CAN YOU DO?"

CHITRIB'S YATES IN TOKYO CITES REP FINDLEY (ILL)
COMMENTS ON TWO-WEEK PRC VISIT. FINDLEY SAID
WILL INTRODUCE BILL NEXT MONTH TO LIMIT SALE OF
FARM PRODUCTS TO NATIONS WHICH DO NOT LET US
EXPERTS INSPECT HARVESTS -- SUCH AS PRC, SOVIET.
FINDLEY NOTED "GREAT FEAR" IN JAPAN THAT US-SOVIET
GRAIN DEAL MEANS CUT-BACK FOR JAPANESE. ADDED TENG
HSIAO-PING CRITICIZED GRAIN SALES ON GROUNDS SOVIET
BUILDING HUGE RESERVE FOR "WAR PURPOSES."

FMC APPROVES ONLY SHORT-TERM EXTENSION OF TWO JAPANESE
FLAG CONTAINERSHIP FREIGHT-POOLING AGREEMENTS IN PACIFIC
TRADE, ORDERS FORMAL INVESTIGATION OF BOTH. FMC
DECISION BASED IN PART ON MARINE COOKS AND STEWARDS
UNION COMPLAINT THAT "ANTI-COMPETITIVE EFFECT" OF
POOLING ON US FLAG CARRIERS MAY DEPRIVE THEM OF EMPLOYMENT
(JOC, WASHINGTON).

SCHOEDEL (JOC) NOTES IMPORTERS, EXPORTERS LINE UP
TO SUPPORT MINI-LANDBRIDGE CONCEPT IN FMC HEARINGS
IN WASHINGTON; ARGUE CARGO FOR FE BOOKED AT ALL-WATER
RATE IN NYC, SHIPPED BY RAIL TO WEST COAST FOR
LOADING SAVES TIME, MONEY, FACILITATES MARKET PENETRATION
IN FE.
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CULLISON (JOC) IN TOKYO CITES MOF SOURCES WHO SAID
TUESDAY GOJ SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET FOR
JFY 75 MAY RESULT IN NEW CAPITAL OUTLAYS OF ABOUT ONE
BILLION DOLS. NOTES FIGURE FALLS FAR SHORT
OF 3-6 BILLION DOLS CALLED FOR BY LDP OFFICIALS, UNION
LEADERS, MITI AND INDUSTRY TO STIMULATE ECONOMY.

CULLISON ALSO NOTES JSP, SOHYO AGREED TUESDAY TO
LAUNCH NATIONWIDE CAMPAIGN OF STRIKES, DEMONSTRATIONS
SEPT 19 TO ACHIEVE LABOR GOALS OF MINIMUM WAGE
SYSTEM, IMPROVED PENSIONS, STRONGER ANTI-RECESSION
MEASURES. ALSO HOPE FORCE MIKI DISSOLVE DIET, CALL
GENERAL ELECTION.

SONY TRADING CORP SAYS SIGNED CONTRACT AS EXCLUSIVE
DISTRIBUTOR FOR HOOVER VACUUM CLEANERS IN JAPAN; PLANS
MARKET FOUR MODELS COSTING 100-400 DOLS BEGINNING
8/21 (WSJ, TOKYO).

MITSUBISHI OIL, 50 PERCENT OWNED BY GETTY, SAYS
MASSIVE MIZUSHIMA OIL SPILL INTO INLAND SEA LAST

DEC COST FIRM MORE THAN 150 MILLION DOLS; 270,000
BBL/DAY REFINERY RESUMED OPERATIONS TUESDAY (WSJ,
TOKYO).

4. CHINA

NESSEN SAID TUESDAY THAT PRES PLANS VISIT PRC SOMETIME IN
LATE NOV OR EARLY DEC (AP, SUN).

VERA GLASSER/MALVINA STEVENSON (CBS RADIO) SAY BUSH AND
WIFE BORED WITH LIFE IN PRC, WILLING LET SOME OTHER
REPUBLICAN "COME AND SUCK LEMONS"; CONTEND BUSH RETURNING
FOR ROLE IN GOP RALLY NEXT MONTH, EYEING POSSIBILITY PRES
MAY REPLACEROCKY FOR "" ON TICKET.

TENG HSIAO-PING TOLD VISITING US CODEL LAST WK PRC
CONSIDERS FORMER PRES NIXON "MAN OF GREAT COURAGE"; ALSO
STATED, "WE DON'T ATTACH ANY IMPORTANCE TO WATERGATE" (WP;
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UPI, NYDN).

ARMANINO MARKETING CORP SIGNS AGREEMENT FOR SOLE DIS-
TRIBUTORSHIP ALL TEA BAGS FROM PRC, MARKING FIRST
SUCH AGREEMENT BETWEEN PRC, US FIRM (WSJ).

5. AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT BOARD ANNOUNCES SECOND SOVIET WHEAT
SALE OF 250,000 TONS; COMBINED WITH PREVIOUS 750,000
TON SALE, TOTAL DEAL PLACED AT 169 MIL DOLS (AP, NYT;
JOC; CHITRIB).

GOA INTRODUCED 1975-76 BUDGET 8/19, WHICH CONTAINS RAD-
ICALLY NEW INCOME TAX SYSTEM THAT WOULD EXEMPT 500,000
LOW-INCOME WORKERS FROM PAYING ANY TAX. INCREASE IN
EXCISE TAXES ON BEER, TOBACCO, GASOLINE, LIQUOR ALSO
SLATED; CORP TAXES CUT 2.5 PCT IN EFFORT STIMULATE BUS-
INESS CONFIDENCE (CHITRIB).

AUSSIE BEEF PRODUCERS WELCOME JAPAN'S LIFTING BAN ON
BEEF IMPORTS, SEEING IT AS SIGN SUBSTANTIAL BEEF
TRADE WITH JAPAN WILL BE RE-ESTABLISHED. BOTH GOVTS
AGREE JAPAN REPRESENTS MOST PROMISING MARKET FOR AUS-
SIE BEEF (JOC).

6. PHILIPPINES

GOP SPOKESMAN SAYS MANSFIELD TOLD MARCOS US CONGRESS
BELIEVES PHILS "MUST BE PRESERVED AS AN ALLY AND DE-
FENDED IN CASE OF AN EXTERNAL ATTACK(WP).

7. TIMOR

INDONESIAN FONMIN MALIK VOICED DISAPPROVAL 8/18 OF UDT'S EFFORTS TAKE CONTROL TIMOR. IN INDONESIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY SPEECH, SAID ACTION WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT ORDERLY, PEACEFUL DECOLONIZATION (REUTER, WP).

8. HONG KONG

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HK TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL SAYS FRG HAS SURPASSED US AS LARGEST MARKET FOR HK CLOTHING EXPORTS (JOC).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

9. JAPAN

CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY (IN WP) NOTES CONGRESS CONSIDERING ECONOMIC BOYCOTT TO SILENCE WHALERS' HARPOONS BEFORE GIANT PREY VANISH FROM SEAS. QUOTES REP BELL, AUTHOR OF TWO RESOLUTIONS EMPOWERING PRES EMBARGO GENERAL TRADE WITH WHALING NATION, OR WHALING FIRM PRODUCTS: "JAPANESE AND SOVIET WHALERS ARE NO MORE THAN PIRATES" WHO OPERATE WITH IMPUNITY UNDER GOVTS THAT CONDONE "RAPE OF THE SEAS." NOTES WH, DOS, TREAS, DEP COMM OPPOSE UNILATERAL ACTION CALLED FOR BY BELL, ON GROUNDS WOULD INVOLVE BARRIERS TO US EXPORTS.

10. PHILIPPINES

SUN SAYS MARCOS' MARTIAL-LAW AUTHORITY HAS BROUGHT MIXED PICTURE RE INCREASED SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR PHILS. STATES "FRAGILE SIGNS OF HOPE" IN MOSLEM CONFLICT CONTRAST SHARPLY WITH MANILA SLUMS, RURAL DISCONTENT. BELIEVES US NEGOTIATORS SHOULD NOT ONLY WEIGH MARCOS' DEMANDS RE BASES, BUT ALSO HIS WILL TO DEAL WITH ISSUES THAT WILL DETERMINE HIS COUNTRY'S FUTURE."

11. INDOCHINA

CITING JOINT CAMBODIAN-PRC COMMUNIQUE RELEASED MONDAY, TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL'S MUNRO, IN PEKING, CONCLUDES "FLEDGING MARXIST" PP GOVT HAS PLANTED ITSELF FIRMLY ON PEKING'S SIDE IN CONFLICT WITH SOVIET -- WHICH REPRESENTS SIGNIFICANT CHINESE VICTORY IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS THAT MAY HEIGHTEN PRC'S STANDING IN LDOS GENERALLY AND IN SEA IN PARTICULAR. FOR ITS PART, CAMBODIA WON COMMITMENT OF PRC ECON AID, WHICH WILL HELP PROP UP ECONOMY. OBSERVES NEW CAMBODIA LEADERS, WHILE NEVER CLOSE TO SOVIET, UNTIL NOW HAD REFRAINED FROM PUBLICLY CRITICIZING MOSCOW; BUT THEY BROKE

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DRAMATICALLY WITH THIS POLICY IN COMMUNIQUE. CAMBODIA'S
OPTING FOR PRC SIDE WILL BE CLOSELY STUDIED BY VN
COMMUNISTS; PP'S STAND COULD COUNTERACT INCREASING
SOVIET INFLUENCE IN VN AND REST OF SEA (IN WP).

LAT'S ELEGANT (8/17) CITES VIEW OF HIGH-RANKING WASHINGTON
ANALYSTS THAT HANOI WILL NOW TURN TO TWO CHIEF FOREIGN
POLICY OBJECTIVES: CREATING INDOCHINA CONFEDERATION
UNDER ITS DOMINATION, AND INCITING INSURRECTIONS
THROUGHOUT SEA. VN SEEN COMING INTO CONFLICT WITH PEKING
IN PURSUING THOSE OBJECTIVES, BUT EXPECTED PLAY PRC,
SOVIET AGAINST EACH OTHER -- STRATEGY IT ALREADY HAS
EMPLOYED WITH GREAT SUCCESS. CONCLUSIONS DRAWN FROM
HANOI'S PUBLIC STATEMENTS, INTELLIGENCE REPORTS, AND
ANALYSIS OF ITS PAST BEHAVIOR. ELEGANT SAYS US
OFFICIALS SEE NO LIKELIHOOD EXTENDING ECON AID TO VN,
ARE DISMAYED BY PRESENT PROSPECT OF DECADE IN DEEP
FREEZE" FOR WASHINGTON-HANOI RELATIONS.

12. GENERAL

DAVID BURNHAM (NYT SPECIAL) CITES CONCLUSION IN RICHARD
BARBER ASSOCIATES' STUDY FOR ERDA, THAT WIDESPREAD USE
OF NUCLEAR REACTORS IN LDCS COULD PRODUCE ENOUGH
PLUTONIUM TO BUILD 3,000 SMALL A-BOMBS PER YEAR. STUDY
FINDS EXISTING INTL CONTROLS INADEQUATE, UNLIKELY GROW
STRONGER, AND RECOMMENDS USG NOT ENCOURAGE SALE OF
REACTORS TO LDCS. BURNHAM ALSO NOTES US INDUSTRY
CONCERN THAT TOO-TOUGH USG STANCE TO ENSURE REACTOR PLU-
TONIUM NOT CONVERTED INTO NUKES WOULD ALLOW EUR, JAPAN,
CANADA COMPETITORS TO START WINNING LARGER SHARE OF MARKET.
LOUISVILLE COURRIER JOURNAL (8/6) EXAMINES QUESTION
OF US CREDIBILITY IN LIGHT OF CONTINUING POST-MORTEM ON
VN INVOLVEMENT. SUGGESTS WISER COURSE FOR MOMENT WOULD BE
TO MAKE NO DRASTIC CHANGES, TAKE NO IRREVERSIBLE STEPS
UNTIL WE HAVE SORTED OUT FULL IMPLICATIONS OF POWER IN
NUCLEAR AGE. STATES US CREDIBILITY CERTAINLY USEFUL TO
IMPRESS FRIENDS, DETER FOES, BUT MUST ALSO BE CREDIBLE TO
AMERICAN PEOPLE. KISSINGER

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